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MIGRATION
POLICY CENTRE

Surveying the issue of forced migration: Contributions of MPC to the understanding of a key challenge for Europe

Justyna Salamońska

Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute

*EU and Global Asylum-Related Migration Research – Gaining an Overview
First International Conference, 16 May 2016*





- Gathering statistical evidence on the migrant crisis and providing original analysis
- Outreach: website, research projects, publications, events
- Focus on the EU, transit and origin countries
- Multidisciplinary
- Current and earlier work:
 - Migrant crisis website
 - Syrian refugees website
 - CARIM South
 - Access to employment (REFMISMES)
 - Smuggling
 - Detention and return (REDIAL)
 - Solidarity
 - Gulf States Programme
 - Survey on irregular migration into Italy
 - Economic perspectives of the refugee crisis (MEDAM)

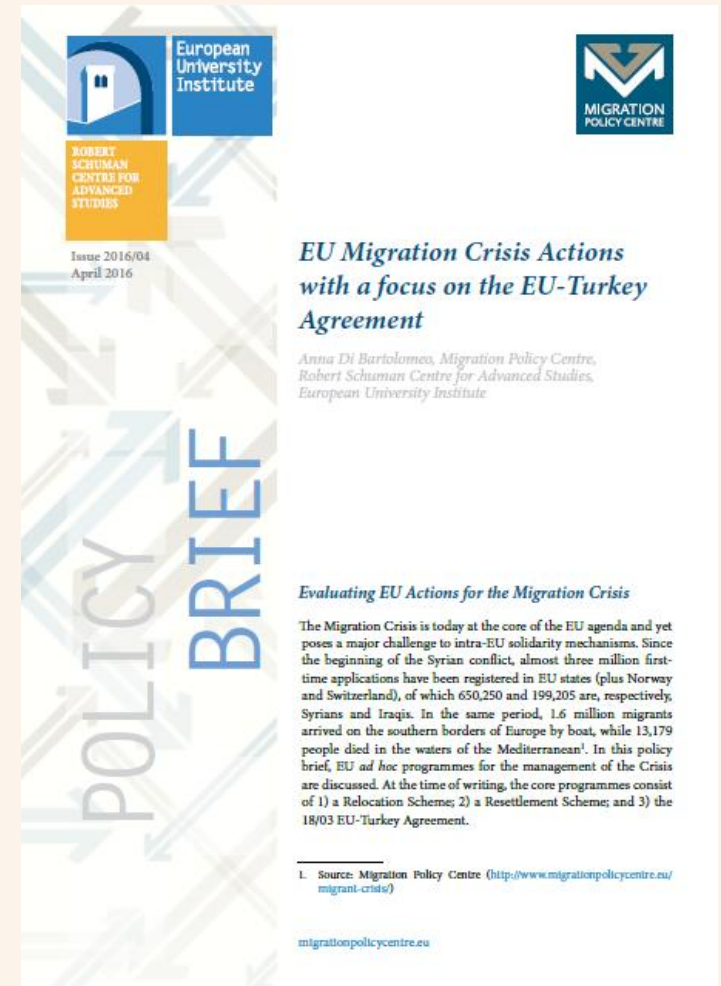




Migrant crisis website



- Objective: offer a unique site combining data from all the sources (published or not)
- Focus: countries of origin, transit and destination
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Timeline;
 - Data;
 - Analytical papers





Syrian refugees website



- Objective: examine the repercussions of the refugee crisis in Syria
- Focus: Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, EU
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Timeline, aid and asylum map;
 - Textual, video and audio materials;
 - Reports;
 - Policy briefs

The cover of the policy brief features the logos of the European University Institute and the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies. It includes the text 'Issue 2016/02 February 2016' and the title 'Migration Profile: Syria' by Françoise De Bel-Air. The background has a large, faint 'POLICY BRIEF' watermark.

Migration Profile: Syria
Françoise De Bel-Air

The Syrian conflict started in March 2011 with a few popular demonstrations and swiftly escalated into a civil war involving international actors. Of the approximately 22 million Syrians recorded in the country on the eve of the war,¹ as of November 2015, perhaps a quarter of a million have been killed;² 7.6 million were internally displaced;³ and an estimated 5.6 million left the country. Of these, the great majority (4.3 million, or 76 percent of all refugees) moved to the countries neighbouring Syria: Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, as well as, in lesser numbers, to Egypt.

Syrians who present themselves to UNHCR in Jordan are automatically recognized as *prima facie* refugees by the Agency; they are not required to undergo a refugee status determination process and are thus afforded protection and access to subsidized primary health care and other essential services. Similarly, in October 2011 the Turkish authorities declared that a temporary protection regime would take effect for all Syrians and Palestinians from Syria.

However, receiving countries' policies towards Syrian refugees have changed over the last four years. Syrians were originally welcome. But security concerns quickly mounted, and refugees came to be considered a burden on the already overstretched services-providing capacities in the five neighbouring countries. Restrictions on the entry of Syrian refugees were rapidly implemented. A report by Amnesty International stated that, "since mid-2012, Turkey has blocked thousands of individuals fleeing Syria from entering Turkey, especially those without a passport or an urgent medical need, leaving many displaced on the Syrian side of the border." Border crossing points were also reduced. In Jordan, limitations were put in place in 2013. These led to a drop in incoming refugees,

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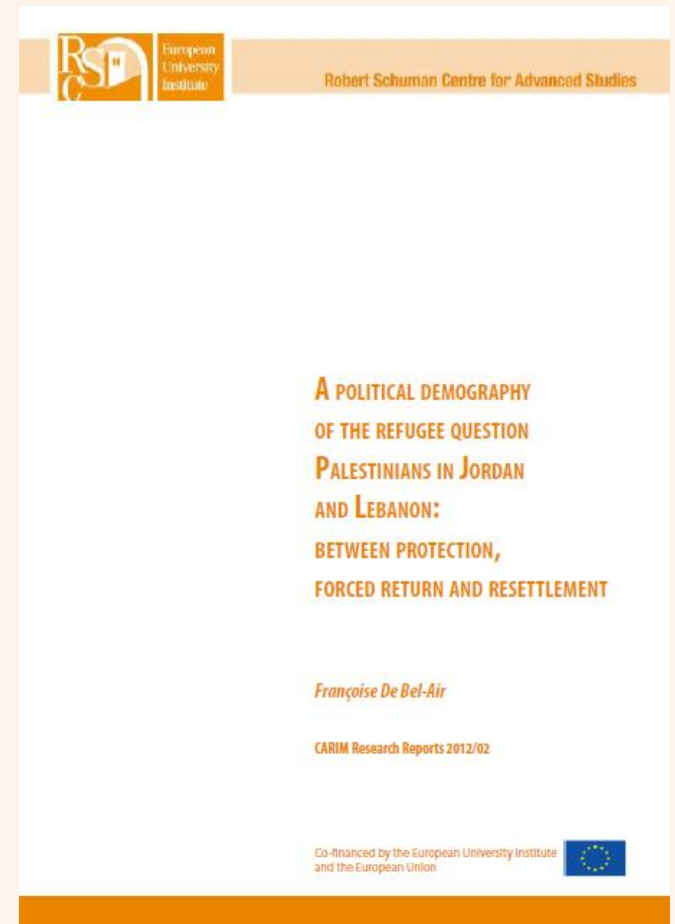




CARIM South



- Objective: contribute to the improvement of understanding and management of migration from, through and to the South and East Mediterranean (SEM) region
- Focus: SEM countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, as well as Mauritania and Sudan
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Data
 - Analyses
 - Recommendations

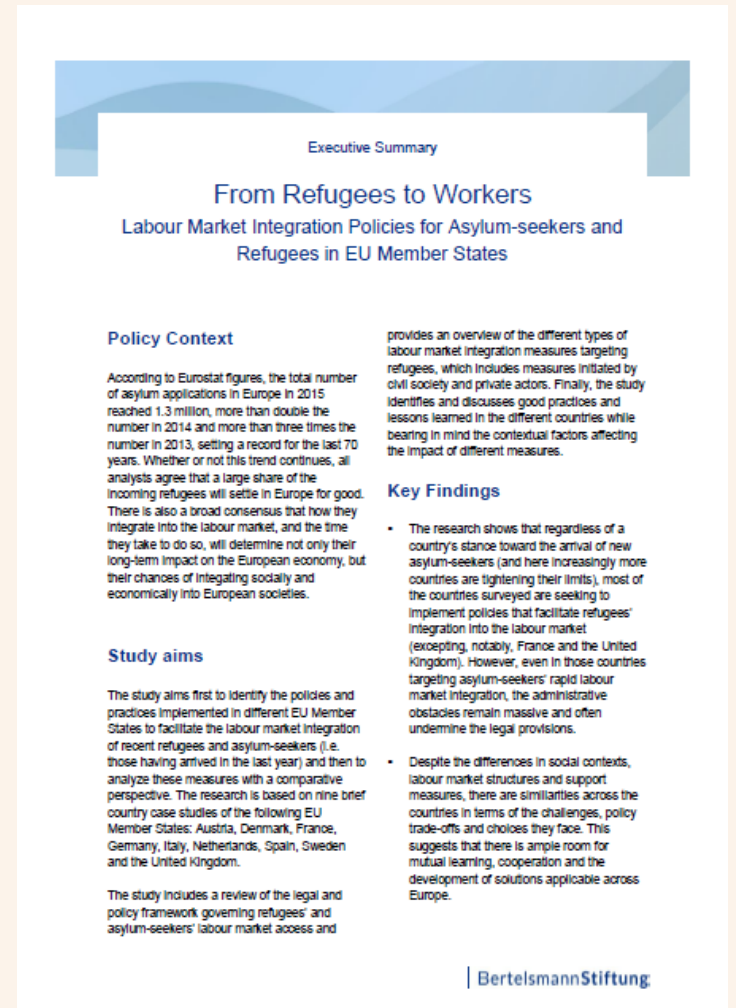




REFMISMES



- Funded by the Bertelsmann Stiftung
- Objective: identify the policies and practices facilitating labour market integration of recent refugees and asylum seekers
- Focus: Austria, Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, UK
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Bibliographical review
 - Country case studies
 - Comparative analysis





Smuggling



- Objective: critically analyse the role of smuggler in the refugee journeys
- Focus: transit routes
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Policy briefs
 - Workshop

Workshop – Critical Approaches to Irregular Migration Facilitation: Dismantling the Human Smuggler Narrative



Tuesday 05 April 2016 - Wednesday 06 April 2016 , Conference Room, Villa La Fonte
European University Institute, Florence, Italy

In contemporary mainstream narratives of migration, the human smuggler has earned a privileged if infamous spot as one of the most widely recognized and despised global predators. Constructed as racialized, hypersexual and greedy *males* from the global South, facilitators of irregular migration have earned widespread notoriety in narratives of human and national security, particularly in the context of migration control efforts. However, our knowledge of irregular migration facilitation is often plagued with fragmented perspectives on the socio-cultural dynamics of the migratory journey, the facilitator-traveller relationship and their community dimensions.

In light of the necessity of elaborating an adequate policy response to human smuggling, a better comprehension of the phenomenon is pivotal to ensuring the stability of the receiving state and the security of the migrant/refugee. The workshop aims to problematize the figure of the smugglers beyond overly simplistic generalizations and representations.





REDIAL Project



- Co-funded by the European Union, coordinated by the MPC, in cooperation with the CJC and Odysseus Academic Network
- Objectives:
 - Facilitate judicial dialogue on return Directive
- Focus: EU
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - European Judicial Network on Return Directive;
 - Legal database;
 - An E-training module on Return Directive

The flyer contains the following information:

WORKSHOP
REDIAL
2ND THEMATIC WORKSHOP FOR THE PROJECT "REDIAL"
 Philippe De Bruycker | European University Institute
 Le Plaza Hotel Brussels, Belgium

15 - 16 APRIL 2016

DRAFT PROGRAMME

15 APRIL

13.30 - 14.00	Registration
14.00 - 14.30	Welcome address and introduction to the Redial Project
14.30 - 14.45	Presentation of last developments of the return policy by a Representative of the European Commission
14.45 - 15.00	Question time and debate with the audience
15.00 - 15.15	Session I - Presentation of Procedural safeguards (article 12 Return Directive) by the Redial Team
15.15 - 16.15	Roundtable discussion of the participating judges and academics
16.15 - 16.45	Coffee break
16.45 - 17.00	Session II - Presentation of Remedies (article 13 Return Directive) by the REDIAL Team
17.00 - 18.00	Roundtable discussion of the participating judges and academics
19.30	Dinner

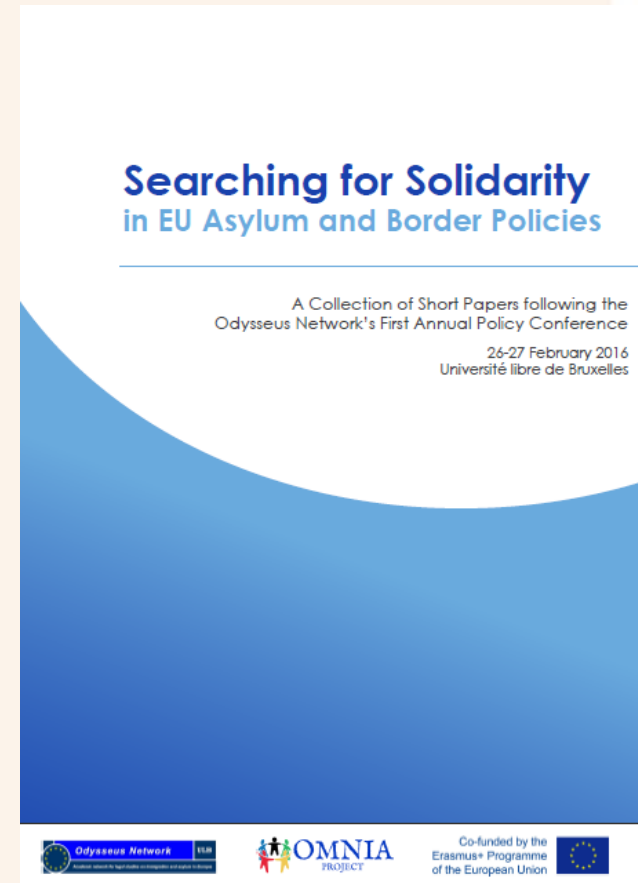




Solidarity



- Objectives:
 - Critically evaluate operationalisation of the principle of solidarity
 - Identify mechanisms that will make the implementation of solidarity more effective
- Focus: EU
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Conceptual analysis;
 - Analysis of the existing forms of European solidarity;
 - Policy proposals;
 - Evaluation





- Joint programme of the GRC and the MPC
- Objectives: provide data, analyses, and recommendations
- Focus: Gulf states
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Database
 - Research papers, policy briefs, explanatory notes



A Note on Syrian Refugees in the
Gulf: Attempting to Assess Data
and Policies

Gulf Labour Markets and Migration

GLMM - EN - No. 11/2015

EXPLANATORY NOTE





Study on irregular migration into Italy



- Funded by DFID (UK), under contract with the IOM
- Objectives:
 - To better know the migration routes;
 - To understand migrants' decision-making processes;
 - To learn ultimate expectations and goals
- Focus: 1,000 migrants in Apulia, Sicily and Lazio
- Outcomes and deliverables: Final report






MEDAM



- Funded by Stiftung Mercator, partners include CEPS, IfW, MPC and EHI
- Objectives: to identify challenges and draw up action strategies for European asylum and migration policy from a primarily economic perspective
- Focus: EU and countries of origin
- Outcomes and deliverables:
 - Analyses and articles in scientific journals
 - Dialogue with decision-makers





WORKING PAPERS

RSCAS 2014/101
Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies
Migration Policy Centre

Tradable Refugee-admission Quotas:
a Policy Proposal to Reform the EU Asylum Policy

Hillel Rapoport and Jesús Fernández-Huertas Moraga



December 2015
2015/12

2015: The year we mistook refugees for invaders
By Philippe Fargues

On 15 December 2015 the European Commission proposed a European Border and Coast Guard to protect Europe's external borders and the Schengen area without internal borders (http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6327_en.htm). As 2015 comes to a close, the annual numbers of migrants smuggled to Greece and Italy and asylum claims lodged in Germany have passed a million, as well as the number of additional displacements produced this year by the conflict in Syria. Moreover, Europe's Mediterranean shore has now the unchallenged title of the world's most lethal border. Not only this, the migrant crisis is also putting to the test some of Europe's most fundamental values, from the freedom of circulation within its territories, to international protection beyond.

The massive numbers of people risking their lives through a variety of sea-and-land routes to force their entry into Europe without a visa, raise three important questions.

– First, what is the nature of the crisis? Is it a migrant or a refugee crisis? Are flows of people entering Europe irregularly in search of economic opportunities or are they seeking international protection? In the first case, there is a consensus among governments that they must be returned. In the second case, as soon as they lodge a claim for asylum, there is a legal duty to keep them until claims are fully processed.

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The politics of pledging: reflections on the London donors conference for Syria

Katharina Lenner, Max Weber Fellow,
Migration Policy Centre, EUI

Representatives of national governments, international organisations, businesses and NGOs assembled on 4 February in London for the high-profile conference 'Supporting Syria & the Region', jointly hosted by the United Kingdom, Germany, Norway, Kuwait and the United Nations.¹ After three previous pledging conferences on the Syria crisis that barely scraped together the necessary funding to keep Syrian refugees in the neighbouring states alive, this year witnessed a change in tack. Not only were funding expectations largely met, but the conference also aimed to develop an entirely new formula for integrating refugees into the neighbouring states that host them. Besides improving access to education, this centred on ways to allow Syrians to access the labour market. Now that the dust has settled a little, it may be time to ask: what are the chances for these aspirations to actually materialise?

This policy brief first looks at how the overall context of the pledging conferences has changed, and surveys the main promises and plans presented in the course of the conference. It then takes a critical look at the situation in Jordan – currently seen as the most promising candidate for sweeping policy change regarding its Syrian refugee population. It shows how the devil is in the details of governing Syrian labour and socio-economic development projects, and traces previous attempts for such changes. It argues that changing labour market regulations is not the silver bullet hoped for by the international community, but that real change can only come about if Europe rethinks its priorities vis-à-vis the Syrian crisis.

¹ 'Supporting Syria and the Region: London 2016' (accessed 10 Feb 2016).

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